

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON NIACT IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY BOGOTA NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

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NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, TD (MRS. CARTER)

SUBJECT: PLANNING FOR MRS. CARTER'S VISIT

BRASILIA PASS RECIFE

1. DETAILED SCHEDULING DECISIONS FOR MRS. CARTER'S PROGRAM IN EACH COUNTRY ARE STILL FOR THE MOST PART PENDING. AN ILLUSTRATIVE SCHEDULE DRAWING ON YOUR SUBMISSIONS WILL BE SENT TO YOU ASAP FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND SUBSEQUENT
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REVIEW WITH AN ADVANCE TEAM INCLUDING KIT DOBELLE, WIFE OF THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, JANE FENDERSON, SCHEDULING SECRETARY TO MRS. CARTER, AND JEAN GILDEA OF DEPARTMENT'S BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATION. TRAVEL PLANS FOR THE ADVANCE PARTY, WHICH EXPECTS TO LEAVE WITHIN A WEEK, WILL ALSO BE SENT ASAP. THE FOLLOWING IS FURNISHED AS GENERAL GUIDANCE FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION OF MRS. CARTER'S SCHEDULING IN THE

INTERIM.

2. MRS. CARTER IS TAKING THIS TRIP VERY SERIOUSLY. HER FIRST PRIORITY WILL BE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH NATIONAL LEADERS. SHE IS DETERMINED THAT HER VISIT BE VALUABLE TO THEM, BOTH BY EXPLAINING CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S OVERALL POLICIES AND BY ADDRESSING HOST COUNTRY

CONCERNs. LAST WEEK TO PREPARE HERSELF ON SPECIFIC ISSUES, SHE BEGAN A SERIES OF DAILY TWO-HOUR BRIEFINGS THAT WILL CONTINUE UNTIL SHE DEPARTS.

3. MRS. CARTER WISHES RIGOROUSLY TO RESPECT HOST PREFERENCES WITH REGARD TO HER PROGRAM. THIS INCLUDES DEFERENCE TO BOTH NATIONAL TRADITIONS AND THE WISHES OF HER PERSONAL HOST/HOSTESS. WHENEVER FLEXIBILITY EXISTS, HER PERSONAL PREFERENCE IS THAT EVENTS BE INFORMAL AND SUBSTANTIVE. THIS MEANS THAT WHERE A GENUINE CHOICE EXISTS BETWEEN TWO ALTERNATIVES, THE FIRST FORMAL OR PROTOCOLARY, AND THE SECOND INFORMAL OR SUBSTANTIVE, SHE WOULD STRONGLY PREFER THE SECOND, SO LONG AS THIS WOULD NOT OFFEND HER HOSTS.

4. MRS. CARTER WISHES HER PUBLIC APPEARANCES AND INDIVIDUAL STOPS TO HAVE A MAXIMUM IMPACT ON SYMBOLIZING HER PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE PROBLEMS AND ACTIVITIES MOST VITAL TO THE COUNTRIES SHE IS VISITING. FOR EXAMPLE, SHE WOULD FAVOR VISITS TO AN INDUSTRIAL INSTALLATION OR AN AGRIBUSINESS COMPLEX, OVER HOSPITALS, CHARITIES, OR

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SCHOOLS. SIMILARLY, SHE WOULD PREFER BROAD CONTACTS WITH PEOPLE BY VISITING A LOCAL COMMUNITY OR HOSTING AN INFORMAL RECEPTION RATHER THAN STANDING ON PROTOCOL BY ATTENDING FORMAL DINNERS. POSTS SHOULD IN EACH CASE CONSIDER WHAT EVENTS WOULD BEST DEMONSTRATE RECOGNITION OF PARTICULAR SUBSTANTIVE HOST COUNTRY CONCERNs AND DESIRE TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THEM.

5. IN EVERY COUNTRY, MRS. CARTER WISHES TO MEET WITH THE FULL STAFF OF EVERY EMBASSY, INCLUDING LOCAL EMPLOYEES, TO PRESENT HER AND THE PRESIDENT'S VIEWS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS. EACH POST SHOULD CONSIDER WHEN AND HOW A BRIEF VISIT OF NO MORE THAN THIRTY (30) MINUTES COULD BE WORKED INTO HER SCHEDULE.

6. MRS. CARTER MAY WISH TO MAKE OR ISSUE BRIEF ARRIVAL OR DEPARTURE STATEMENTS. SHE WILL RESPOND TO TOASTS WHEN APPROPRIATE. POSTS SHOULD SUBMIT DRAFTS OF PROPOSED ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE STATEMENTS AND TOASTS BY COB MAY 13,

KEEPING IN MIND MRS. CARTER'S STRONG PREFERENCE FOR BREVITY, SIMPLICITY AND DIRECTNESS. IN LINE WITH THE PRESIDENT'S OAS SPEECH, THESE DRAFTS SHOULD CLEARLY DEMONSTRATE RECOGNITION OF EACH COUNTRY'S INDIVIDUALITY.

7. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, WE NEED ASAP THE FOLLOWING FOR BACKGROUND/BRIEFING PURPOSES:

-- BIOGRAPHIC SKETCHES OF THE THREE OR FOUR KEY FOREIGN LEADERS MRS. CARTER WILL SEE AT EACH STOP. WIVES MAY BE INCLUDED IN THIS THREE OR FOUR. THE SKETCHES SHOULD BE PERSONAL INTERPRETATIONS BY THE AMBASSADOR GIVING HIS SENSE OF THESE PEOPLE AS INDIVIDUALS. INCLUDE AS MUCH HUMAN, IDIOSYNCRATIC FLAVOR AS POSSIBLE.

-- AN UNVARNISHED ANALYSIS OF THE PRESS SITUATION IN EACH COUNTRY. WHAT ATTITUDES WILL MRS. CARTER EN-
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COUNTER? WHAT TOPICS SHOULD BE TOUCHED ON, WHICH SHOULD BE TOTALLY AVOIDED? WHAT SETS EACH COUNTRY APART FROM THE OTHERS TO BE VISITED? CHRISTOPHER

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